प्राकृतिक आपदा राहत कोष से राशि का आबंटन

2655. **श्री ओंकार सिंह लखावत :** क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भारत सरकार प्राकृतिक आपदा राहत कोष से राशि के आबंटन के व्यावहारिक और उचित मापदण्ड बनाने का विचार रखती

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में कौन-कौन से कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं,

(ग) उक्त कोष से राहत की राशि निर्धारित करने का मापदण्ड कब बनाया गया था, उसमें आखिरी बार संशोधन कब किया गया था, और

(घ) वर्तमान में उक्त मद में राहत का मापदण्ड क्या हैं ?

कृषि मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सोमपाल) : (क) से (घ) आपदा राहत कोष तथा राष्ट्रीय आपदा राहत कोष का गठन क्रमशः नवें वित्त आयोग तथा दसवें वित्त आयोग की सिफारिशों पर किया गया था। इन आयोगों ने आपदा राहत कोष का राज्य-वार आबंटन, लागत/मूल्यों में वृद्धि आदि को ध्यान में रखकर, व्यापक रूप से पिछले दस वर्षों में प्राकृतिक आपदाओं के परिणामस्वरूप किए गए राहत और पुनर्वास उपायोग संबंधी औसत खर्च के आधार पर किया था। वर्तमान आबंटन दसवें वित्त आयोग की सिफारिश के आधार पर किया गया हैं जिसे 1995-96 से कार्यान्वित किया जा रहा हैं । राष्ट्रीय आपदा राहत कोष जो 1995-96 में प्रचालन में हैं, के मामले में, राज्य-वार कोई आबंटन नहीं किया गया। राष्ट्रीय आपदा राहत कोष से सहायता, संस्थापित प्रक्रिया का अनुकरण करने के बाद, केवल विरल गंभीरता वाली आपदाओं के लिए दी जाती हैं।

ग्यारहवां वित्त आयोग, आपदा राहत कोष के परिचालन तथा इसके राज्य-वार आबंटन सहित, आपदा राहत कोष/राष्ट्रीय आपदा राहत कोष के संबंध में राहत खर्च के लिए धन देने की योजना की समीक्षा कर रहा हैं।

Agricultural Development in N.E. Region

2656. SHRI W. ANGOU SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any contemplated plan for agricultural development in the North-east Region for food self-sufficiency in this region;

(b) if so, state the measures of the plan for each State of North-east Region; and

(c) if not, whether the Government will take any measure for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) Yes Sir, Number of Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes are being implemented in North East Region for the Development of Agriculture and achieving Self-sufficiency. A list of such schemes being implemented by the Department of Agriculture and Cooperation is given in the statement. *(See* below)

(c) Does not arise.

Statement

List of Central Sector/Centrally sponsored schemes being implemented in North East Region in Agriculture Sector

1. Integrated Cereals Development Programme in Rice Based Cropping System Areas (ICDP-Rice).
2. Sustainable Development of Sugarcane Based Cropping Systems Areas-SUBACS.
3. Promotion of Agricultural Mechanisation among small Farmers.
4. Soil Conservation in the Catchment of River Valley Projects.
5. Watershed Development Project in Shifting Cultivation Areas in North Eastern States.
6. Strengthening of State Land Use Board.
7. Integrated development of tropical, temperate and arid zone fruits.
8. Production and distribution of vegetable seeds.

9. Development of Root & Tuber Crops.

10. Promotion of bee keeping for increasing production and productivity of the horticulture crops.

11. Development of Medicinal & Aromatic Plants.

12. Development of Mushroom Cultivation.

13. Integrated Development Programme for Spices.

Farm Subsidies

2657. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will thr PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government in its National Agenda for Governance propose to continue with farm subsidies;

(b) if so, the rational behind this;

(c) details of steps taken to make farm subsidies more direct, efficient and specific; and

(d) reduction in food subsidy on account of hike in issue prices of Sugar, Wheat and Rice supplied through PDS?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE <SHRI SOMPAL): (a) and (b) The National Agenda for Governance stipulates commitment of the Government to continue with farm subsidies and make them more direct, efficient and specific The rationale behind continuance of the subsidies is to provide inputs to the, farmers at affordable prices to adopt modern technology for increasing production and productivity.

(c) Major agricultural input subsidies given to farmers arc fertilisers, irrigation and power. Subsidies on irrigation and power arc given directly by the State Governments charging lower rates than that of actual cost. However, subsidies on fertilisers arc routed through manufacturers/suppliers of fertilisers.

(d) Raising of issue prices from January, 1999 for above Poverty Line households would reduce the subsidy burden to the extent of about Rs. *2600* crores.

Changes in Agricultural Research System

2658. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) ".whether Government propose to bring changes in the agricultural research system to make it more accountable to the nation;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reasons for the poor response of the agriculture research system/work'.'

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SOMPAL): (a) Yes, Sir. The government propose to bring changes in the agricultural research system to make it more accountable to the nation.

(b) The agricultural research system has well established Monitoring and Evaluation (M & E) system in place for all Us research institutions. However, to enhance the accountability, it is planned to introduce Project Based Budgeting (PBB) system. In the project based budgeting system, the research project becomes the costing centre instead of the institution.

(c) There is no poor response of agricultural research system/works. The technologies generated by national agricultural research system have been widely adopted by the farmers. The contribution of R & D efforts have been cornerstone of growth of agricultural sector. The technology led growth has helped India to quadruple its foodgrain production during last 50 years. Simultaneously, today India is a leading producer of fruits, vegetables, milk, eggs and fish. These achievements have been possible with the efforts of agricultural research system/works.